

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 97

By Wilder

A RESOLUTION to create a special joint committee of the general assembly to review and evaluate various aspects of Tennessee's judicial system.

WHEREAS, in order to promote and ensure the highest level of governmental efficiency and effectiveness, it is right and proper for the General Assembly to exercise its powers of legislative oversight with regard to each and every entity of state government; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that there is hereby created a special joint committee to review and evaluate:

(1) The administration, management, and operation of Tennessee's appellate court system and Tennessee's trial court system; and

(2) The activities and effectiveness of state entities responsible for ensuring competent, ethical and professional conduct by judges and attorneys practicing within Tennessee's appellate court system or within Tennessee's trial court system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special joint committee shall consist of three (3) members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, to be appointed by the Speaker of the Senate, and three (3) members of the House Judiciary Committee, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all appropriate agencies of state government shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the General Assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its final findings and recommendations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special joint committee shall be convened by the member having the greatest number of years of continuous service within the General Assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special joint committee shall timely report its final findings and recommendations to the Tennessee Supreme Court and to the One Hundred Fifth General Assembly no later than January 15, 2009, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.